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UNCLAS QUITO 000866

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

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SUBJECT: ECUADOR WILL ABSTAIN ON GUANTANAMO RESOLUTION

REF: SECSTATE 69823

1. (SBU) On April 19, PolOff conveyed reftel pertinent to Carmen Larrea in the MFA's Human Rights Office and requested the GOE oppose Cuba's resolution on Guantanamo. Larrea thanked us for sharing the draft resolution, and said the GOE will follow its well-established position of abstaining on all matters related to Cuba. PolOff emphasized that the resolution is clearly a retaliatory act; Larrea did not offer any procedural suggestions to block the measure.

2. (SBU) The DCM followed up on the issue with the FM's advisor Jose Nunez. Nunez said the GOE will abstain and emphasized that the decision is firm. Acting on a request from the US Mission in Geneva, the DCM also raised a USG concern about the Like-Minded Group resolution on human rights and mentioned the Latin American's group opposition to the matter. Nunez promised to review the resolution and get back to us.

KENNEY